

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending in the present application. Applicant affirms the election of claims 1-7 in response to the Restriction Requirement. Non-elected claims 8-9 have been canceled.

Claim 1 has been amended to address the concerns raised in the rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to provide a clear antecedent basis for the term "the partially steam reformed mixture." Claim 1 has also been amended to make clear that the "reforming of the reaction mixture" takes place in the "heated steam reforming unit."

Claims 1-7 have been provisionally rejected on grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-8 of copending Application Serial No. 10/667,392. To obviate this rejection, applicant submits herewith a Terminal Disclaimer with respect to Application Serial No. 10/667,392, accompanied by the fee for recording a statutory disclaimer in the amount of \$130.00.

In view of the foregoing amendment and the attached Terminal Disclaimer, applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited.

Dated: February 17, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Stephen A. Soffen

Registration No.: 31,063

DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN &
OSHINSKY LLP

2101 L Street NW

Washington, DC 20037-1526

(202) 785-9700

Attorney for Applicant